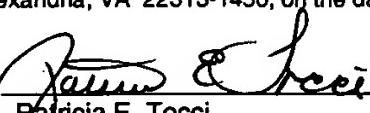


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: February 15, 2005

Signature:



Patricia E. Tocci

Docket No.: SYP-172  
(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Kenneth C. Parker et al

Confirmation No. 2910

Application No.: 09/851,058

Art Unit: 1641

Filed: May 8, 2001

Examiner: Lisa V. Cook

For: PROCESS FOR ANALYZING PROTEIN  
SAMPLES

### **REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION AND AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

### **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Final Office Action dated September 23, 2004 ("the Final Action"), Applicants hereby request continued examination of the above-identified patent application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and submit the following Amendment and Reply as the requisite submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c). Reconsideration and further examination are requested.

A two-month extension for filing the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and accompanying Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested. A Petition for a two-month extension of time is being filed concurrently herewith. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee for the Petition and the required fee for the RCE to Deposit Account No. 50-1191, under Order No. SYP-172, from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.